(1) Chhatrapur (Distt. Ganjam), (2) Duburi (Distt. Jaipur), and (3) Chipilima (Distt. Sambalpur) on provisional basis. This amount could be utilised by the implementing agency for establishment of Growth Centres only after the Project Reports submitted by the State Government for these growth centres were finally approved by the Government of India.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. As per the guidelines issued on this Growth Centre Scheme, the first instalment of Rs. SO lakhs is to be released on final approval of the project report. In the initial stage (1990-91 and 1991-92), the first instalment of Rs. SO lakhs each was released on provisional basis for 33 growth centres, including the three growth centres of Orissa as mentioned in the answer to part (a) of the Question. The Growth Centre at Kesinga was not identified by that time. Now the release of Central assistance on provisional basis has been discontinued and no amount has been released on provisional basis for any growth centre in the country after 1991-92. It will, therefore, not be possible to release any Central assistance for any growth centre before the project report is approved by the Government of India.

Pending cases in Delhi

2576. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether lakhs of cases are pending in the three district courts in Delhi, some of which are nearly 35 year old;

(b) if so, the reasons of their pendency and the steps taken to overcome the same;

(c) whether one of the reasons for the delay is the adopting of dilatory tactics by the parties;

(d) if so, how it is proposed to be tackled;

(e) whether the involvement of the court staff in delaying the cases is also one of the reasons; and

(f) if so, the number of court staff found indulging in such activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) As on 1.7.1995, a total number of 5,72,903 cases including Traffic Challans numbering 2,56,082 were pending in Districts/Subordinate Courts in Delhi. There is no case which is 35 years old.

(b) The pendency of cases is due to various reasons, viz; the increase in the population in Delhi, increase in awareness of Legal rights and strikes by lawyers practising in the Subordinate Courts. The Registry of Delhi High Court has informed that the Subordinate Courts are making every possible effort to expedite the disposal of pending cases.

(c) and (d) The Registry has informed that whenever such instances come to the notice of the High Court, the Presiding Officer is advised to avoid unnecessary adjournments.

(e) and (f) No such instance has come to the notice of the Delhi High Court.

Requirement of electronic voting machines

2577. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) how many electronic voting machines are required for the whole country;

(b) how many of these are available; and

(c) whether Government will consider using the available machines in the rigging-prone areas like Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Approximately six lakhs.

(b) 1.5 lakhs.

(c) The Government had asked the Election Commission in May, 1993 itself